THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

"And thus we see that the commandments of God must be fulfilled. And if it so be that the children of men keep the commandments of God he doth nourish them, and strengthen them, and provide means whereby they can accomplish the thing which he has commanded them." BOOK OF MORMON, 1 NEPHI 17:3.

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THE TWELVE AND THE FIRST COUNCIL OF SEVENTY*

PRESIDENT RUDGER CLAWSON

OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE

MY BRETHREN AND SISTERS: We have had a most glorious conference. I have enjoyed every moment of it up to this hour. The teachings of this conference have been equal to any that I have heretofore listened to.

TWO COUNCILS

Last evening a great multitude of men bearing the Holy Priesthood of God gathered in this Tabernacle. It was a time of interest and instruction, and was perhaps as largely attended a Priesthood meeting as we have ever had in the Church. Represented there were all the orders and degrees of the Priesthood of God. The duties devolving upon the Priesthood are quite well defined in the revelations of God. You will pardon me if I refer briefly this morning to the Council of the Twelve Apostles and the First Council of Seventy, since I am quite closely identified with these Councils. As to whether the Council of the Twelve and the First Council of Seventy enjoy the spirit of their calling, you Latter-day Saints are perhaps well able to judge. They are very close to you and you know them.

THE WORD OF THE LORD TO THE APOSTLES AND SEVENTY

The word of the Lord to Joseph Smith the Prophet, respecting

*Address delivered at the fifth session of the Ninety-eighth Semi-annual Conference, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A., October 9th, 1927.

these Councils, will perhaps be appropriate to read at this time. In section one hundred seven of the Doctrine and Covenants the Lord says:

The Twelve are a Traveling Presiding High Council, to officiate in the name of the Lord, under the direction of the Presidency of the Church, agreeable to the institution of heaven; to build up the church, and regulate all the affairs of the same in all nations, first unto the Gentiles and secondly unto the Jews.

The Seventy are to act in the name of the Lord, under the direction of the Twelve or the traveling high council, in building up the church and regulating all the affairs of the same in all nations, first unto the Gentiles and then to the Jews;

The Twelve being sent out, holding the keys, to open the door by the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and first unto the Gentiles and then unto the Jews.

This is repeated in section one hundred twenty-four, where the following language occurs. Remember, these sections disclose sacred revelations of God to Joseph Smith, His servant: the "Twelve hold the keys to open up the authority of my kingdom upon the four corners of the earth, and after that to send my word to every creature."

And in respect to the First Council of Seventy: the "quorum is instituted for traveling elders to bear record of my name in all the world, wherever the traveling high council, mine apostles, shall send them to prepare a way before my face."

THE LABOURS OF THESE COUNCILS

You will remember that it is said that the Twelve is a Traveling Presiding High Council. Such is actually the case. They are not expected to preside directly in the Church, but are also required to travel, and so that has fallen to the lot of these two Councils since the Church was organized. They are constantly on the road, so to speak, going or coming, whether at home or abroad, going into the stakes of Zion when at home, to regulate the affairs of the Church in the stakes, under the direction of the First Presidency; they visit by rotation some ninety-nine stakes of Zion. And you will perceive that it requires some time to get around and visit these stakes. At least ten, eleven or twelve stake conferences are held weekly, and at most of the conferences members of the Twelve and the First Council of Seventy are represented. What are they there for? To preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to organize and reorganize wards and stakes of Zion, and to set apart to the callings of the Priesthood presidents of stakes, high councilors, etc. And, having accomplished this work at any one or all of these conferences, the Apostles and the members of the First Council of Seventy return to report their work to the First Presidency of the Church. And I may say that these brethren have very great pleasure and delight in the labour that is placed upon them.

What about the nations? Well, as the Twelve and the First Council are required to have a very considerable interest in the missions of the world—we have some twenty-seven missions—it is the particular duty of the Twelve, and so stated by the revelation, to open the door for the proclamation of the Gospel to the nations, and perhaps also to teach the Gospel, by first opening the door and then sending the word of the Lord to the nations. It gives me great pleasure to report here this morning that the Twelve have accomplished, in my judgment, a very great work in respect to this matter. The door for the proclamation of the Gospel was opened up to America, our beloved country, by Joseph Smith the Prophet, and the keys to open this door were also committed by Joseph Smith the Prophet to members of the Council of the Twelve.

TO THE NATIONS

The Gospel was introduced into Great Britain in 1837 by Elder Heber C. Kimball, who was then one of the Council of the Twelve. He was accompanied by Orson Hyde, Willard Richards and Joseph Fielding. They accomplished a great mission. The Gospel was introduced into France in 1850 by Elder John Taylor of the Council of the Twelve; and into Italy in 1850 by Lorenzo Snow; into Scandinavia in 1850 by Elder Erastus Snow; into Japan in 1901 by President Heber J. Grant; into South America in 1925 by Elder Melvin J. Ballard, who was accompanied by Elders Rulon S. Wells and Rey L. Pratt.

The Pacific Islands Mission was opened in 1844 by Elder Noah Rogers and others. Elder Rogers was not of the Council of the Twelve. Elder David O. McKay and Elder Hugh J. Cannon visited the Pacific Islands Mission in 1921. It was a complete and extended visit. They also went to China, and while Elder McKay was there in that distant land he felt impressed to bless the land that the Gospel might take root in the hearts of that people.

TO THE JEWS

We are told in the revelation that the Twelve will not only take the Gospel to the Gentiles, but also to the Jews. Perhaps the first step taken in this matter was the appointment by the Prophet Joseph Smith of Orson Hyde of the Twelve, who was despatched to dedicate and consecrate the land of Palestine for the gathering of Judah's scattered remnant, and also the scattered remnants of Israel. You will understand, my brethren and sisters, that since that time there has been a pronounced movement on the part of the Jews of the world to gather to Palestine, undoubtedly influenced by the sacred prayer that was put upon the land of Palestine and by the Spirit of God, who is directing in all these matters.

I rejoice in the integrity, in the faithfulness, in the devotion of

my brethren and associates of the Council of Twelve and the First Council of Seventy. I know these brethren intimately. I think I have been able to look into their hearts, and to know how they feel. I know what they are doing. I believe that their labours are approved of the Lord, and that His blessing is attending their activities.

We members of these two Councils rejoice greatly in the spirit of the Gospel and are pleased to labour under the direction of the First Presidency of the Church. We love one another; we uphold one another in our faith. I believe, in fact, I think I may say that I know, that the Council of the Twelve and the First Council of Seventy see eye to eye.

Of course, there are other Councils in the Church, and there are a great many important callings. I may be pardoned in closing my remarks by quoting from Paul the Apostle, who is regarded as a very eminent authority on things pertaining to the work of God. He said: The Church of God is founded upon apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone. Now, the Apostle Paul might very well have added—certainly he might truthfully have added—that the Church of God is founded or built upon the foundation of apostles and prophets, of high priests, of seventies, elders, and of priests, teachers and deacons, because it must be very apparent to the Latter-day Saints that, after all is said and done, the real meaning of the pronouncement of the Apostle was this: that the Church of God is built upon the foundation of the Holy Priesthood of God, for that represents divine authority upon the earth. And it is by divine authority that the Church of God has been established and will be built up upon the earth.

This is my testimony. I know that Jesus is the Christ. I know it as fully and completely as I know that I live. I know that Joseph Smith was and is a true prophet of God. He was a mighty man in Israel, and I bear this testimony in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

WORK OF THE LORD IN THE CALIFORNIA MISSION*

ELDER JOSEPH W. McMURRIN

OF THE FIRST COUNCIL OF SEVENTY AND PRESIDENT OF THE CALIFORNIA MISSION

IF I CAUGHT ARIGHT the suggestion made by the President of the Church yesterday, it was his desire that the mission presidents should give information concerning the mission intrusted

*From an address delivered at the third session of the Ninety-eighth Semi-annual Conference, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A., October 8th, 1927.

to their care. You have all learned from the remarks of President Grant that some things a little out of the ordinary have taken place in the California Mission. Three stakes have been organized in that mission. I suppose I can say in the mission, although in a sense they are entirely outside of the mission, for the presidencies of the stakes, and those who are under their direction, control and manage and direct the organizations that are within the stakes entirely independent of any mission authority, and yet there are missionary districts covering some of the same territory that the stakes cover. The Los Angeles missionary district covers the territory that is embraced in the Los Angeles and Hollywood Stakes. The San Francisco missionary district covers the identical territory now embraced in the San Francisco Stake. I think there has never been just this kind of experience in missions before. It is true that stakes have been organized that have taken sections of missions, but the mission headquarters have not been maintained in the midst of those sections; so in California we have what may be termed a double line of authority, the authority of the mission and the authority of the various stakes.

STAKE AND MISSION COOPERATION

I am happy to say that the utmost good-will has been maintained between mission authority and stake authority. At the present time in the San Francisco Stake, President MacDonald and his associates, and Bishop Newman of the San Francisco Ward and his associates, and the Relief Society organizations in that section, are all banded together to improve the quarters in San Francisco that are occupied by the missionaries. We thank the Lord for such men as are in the San Francisco Stake presidency and other presidencies in California, and for their desire to honour and respect and build up the missionaries and give them opportunity to accomplish the work that belongs to them. I feel that this is just as it should be. The missionaries are sent forth by proper authority to proclaim the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, and they should be given in California, in every stake and in every ward, abundant opportunity to lift up their voices in proclamation of the truth, that they may magnify the callings whereunto they have been called. I am happy to say that this condition prevails.

. . . .

We have at present, outside of the stakes of Zion, nearly fifty Relief Societies, seventy Sunday Schools, thirty Young Men's Mutual Improvement Associations, and thirty Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Associations, and thirty Primary organizations. All of these organizations are established exactly in the same manner as they are organized in the stakes of Zion, and are officered in that manner. They conduct their services strictly in

accordance with the lessons outlined by the General Boards, that are in use in the stakes of Zion. In our mission, branch presidents carry practically the same authority carried by the bishops in the stakes of Zion. They stand at the head; they receive the tithings of the people; they ordain, according to their judgment, young men to the Aaronic Priesthood. Usually, if men are to be ordained to the Melchizedek Priesthood, before such ordination their names are referred to the mission president.

MISSIONARIES NEEDED

We need more missionaries. I suppose it is impossible to get that into the minds of men in authority, who are here in this congregation. I mean not the men behind me, but you men down in the congregation who make recommendations to the Presidency of the Church. We have discovered a way of getting missionaries that could be adopted. It is to call stake presidents into the mission field. They sent Stephen L. Chipman to the California Mission, and there seemed to come to Brother Chipman a great revelation concerning the necessity of missionaries, and while he was in the mission field he got more missionaries from the Alpine Stake of Zion than he has been able to obtain since he returned. One of our missionaries intimated that it was because he had the missionary spirit upon him in the mission field more than he had in the Alpine Stake of Zion; but if we could have other stake presidents sent into the California Mission, who would do the same work that President Chipman did in obtaining missionaries, one of our great problems would be solved.

JOY IN MISSIONARY WORK

I was impressed yesterday with the testimony of President Henry H. Rolapp. He told us that when he was called to preside over the Eastern States Mission he had some question in his mind as to whether that would be a satisfactory way in which to spend his time, and yet he declared that a wonderful realization had come to him regarding the joy of missionary work. Well, that comes to every missionary who faithfully meets the obligation that rests upon him. I would not like to be misunderstood, or to give offense to anybody, but I say deliberately that in the mission field I have listened to trembling boys and trembling girls bear witness concerning the truth of the Gospel, when my own soul has been pierced just as greatly as in listening to the testimony of any man of authority who has ever saluted my ears with his testimony. I thank God for that condition. Young men and young women do make the discovery by the power of God that they are engaged in the work of God; and I feel that when these weak vessels, for they feel that they are weak, can pierce and melt my own soul and bring tears of joy to my eyes with their testimonies, surely by the same Spirit and by the same

power they may reach the hearts of men who are not of our faith; and the Almighty, by the weak things that He has called and sent forth to minister in His name, is actually accomplishing the work designed in the sending forth of these young men and young women who feel most intensely their own weakness. I thank God for their companionship. I am proud of them; I love them; I trust them, and I believe they love me. They gladly hearken to my counsel, and they carry out, generally speaking, without hesitation and in great cheerfulness, the recommendations that are made to them.

During this last month of September we suggested to the missionaries of California, in honour of the one-hundredth anniversary of the delivery of the plates of the Book of Mormon to Joseph the Prophet, that they should make an extra effort to place the Book of Mormon. They responded wonderfully. We do not know just how many were placed, but we believe that in September alone we placed in the California Mission three or four thousand copies of the Book of Mormon.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP IS AN ASSET

I am glad to say that about twenty-six of our branches are housed in comfortable chapel buildings which they own and control. This has been brought about by the liberality of the Presidency of the Church, and it has given me wonderful satisfaction to tell the people in the California Mission that every dollar of the tithing paid throughout the California Mission has been expended in helping to house the branches of California in proper meeting places. When I say that of California it includes portions of the State of Nevada and portions of the State of Arizona. We have built during the season just closing a comfortable little chapel in Fresno, California. We are roofing at the present time in Prescott, Arizona, a wonderful chapel built to endure, you would think to look upon it, forever and ever, built out of blocks of granite. And the preliminary steps have been taken for the erection of a chapel in Binghampton, Arizona, and in Palo Alto, California. So, little by little we are obtaining a better foothold, and I am happy to say that I feel in my soul that it is not a liability, in any sense of the word, in the California Mission, to be know as a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I believe, with many of our non-"Mormon" friends, that the announcement that an individual is a member of the Church is a distinct asset to him, and we are held, generally speaking, in high esteem by our non-"Mormon" friends in Nevada, in California and in Arizona. We feel that the purposes of God are advancing, and we know, thank God, that we are engaged in the Lord's service. May He help us to meet our obligations and to magnify our calling, I humbly pray, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1928

EDITORIAL

GREETINGS TO ELDER BALLARD

Elder Melvin J. Ballard has verified the Spanish proverb: "Where there is music there can be nothing bad." The music of his voice in song and speech has so reenforced the eloquence of his thought that thousands have been brought thereby into paths of goodness.

His life—he was born February 9th, 1873—has ever been consecrated to the service of the Lord. He has been successful in business and other temporal concerns, but he has always made it his first duty to help carry onward the latter-day purposes of the Almighty. Love of God and an eager desire to help humanity understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ have been the motives of his life. Few have succeeded so well in awakening men and women to a living sense of their responsibilities to the Lord.

He was ordained a Deacon in his boyhood, then successively, as he grew in experience and official responsibility, a Priest, an Elder, a Seventy and a High Priest. On January 7th, 1919, he was ordained an Apostle.

In ward and stake activities he has taken vigorous part, and occupied responsible positions. He filled a mission, chiefly in the Northern States, from 1896 to 1898; and in 1909 was called to preside over the Northwestern States Mission, which position he occupied until 1919. In 1925 he was sent to open the South American Mission. His Apostolic labours have taken him far and wide to expound the Gospel and to set in order the affairs of the Church. He has touched many Church concerns, such as music, Mutual Improvement work and hospital service. His musical talent, eloquence and spiritual fervour have made him a powerful teacher. Whatever he has done, he has done well.

Elder Ballard has ever been true to the traditions of his faithful lineage and to his Church. He is industrious, unselfish, intelligent, kind and lovable. His life may well be emulated by all who desire to serve and achieve greatly.

The *Millennial Star* wishes Elder Ballard many happy returns of his birthday anniversary.—W.

TWENTY MEN ANSWER

Four questions, which follow, were asked of the twenty missionaries recently assembled in conference at Sunderland.

1. What has been your greatest success in the mission field?

2. What have you found to be your greatest difficulty in missionary labour?

3. What in your judgment is the most important thing to be done for the advancement of the cause you represent?

4. What is your attitude toward your work?

The questions were answered individually. Few of the missionaries confined themselves to one reply, but the harmony and uniformity of response are significant, as are also the answers themselves. Answers to the first query invariably included the following: The missionary's first great success lies in the absolute conversion of self, in gaining a personal testimony, developing self, allaying prejudice, bearing witness to the people, making friends and aiding in the conversion of others.

Replies to the second question embodied the following: The missionary's greatest difficulties lie in overcoming indifference, in convincing people of the necessity of acting, even though they agree in general with the truths of the Gospel; in keeping members of the Church active and vitally interested, and in adapting one's self and one's method to the time, place and individual.

To the third proposition came the following opinions: The greatest immediate needs are: The living of the Gospel by members and missionaries alike; to meet present-day problems, to show mankind wherein the Gospel provides remedies for all the troubles of this age, to keep Church members actively engaged, to provide recreation and wholesome amusement, to keep the spirit of the missionary calling, to meet the people and to deliver the message.

In replying to the fourth query without exception the missionaries expressed joy and satisfaction in their labours, appreciation for the privilege of ministering as servants of the Lord in this latter-day work, and conviction of the actuality of the restoration and of the divine calling of the Prophet Joseph Smith.

This group of missionaries may be considered representative of all who labour in the British Mission, if not of the nearly twenty-four hundred engaged in like work throughout the world. Their answers to these questions express much and imply more.

By reading between the lines and enlarging a little here and there, we may develop a very true and interesting story—the story of young men who have left good homes in many parts of the United States and Canada, who have willingly responded to mission calls, notwithstanding that they have been inexperienced and unfamiliar with the religious questions of the day, notwithstanding that to go has meant sacrifice of time, money and cherished associations. Interwoven is the tale of men who have responded, firmly believing in the truth of their message, but ofttimes for reasons that they themselves could not explain.

They have met men trained for the ministry, skilled in polemics, well-acquainted with the religious movements and developments

of the day; they have discussed views with votaries of many sects, and have emerged, not with disappointment and shattered beliefs, but stronger and more firmly grounded in the faith of their parents, with assurance that approaches knowledge that they are messengers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

They have met strangers day by day, and have convinced them by word and by deed that current views concerning the so-called "Mormons" are founded on falsehood. They have borne testimony to many, have made many fast friends—a few of whom have accepted their teachings whole-heartedly, and have complied with the requirements of the Gospel of the Master.

The second answers give insight into world conditions and into human nature. They convey to the mind a picture of people who have so long been taught the doctrines of men that they have become indifferent to all things religious, and do not recognize gospel truths when they hear them from the lips of authorized bearers of the message of life.

They tell the story of men and women who have so long been taught that faith, repentance, baptism by immersion, and the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost by one having authority are no longer necessary, despite the direct affirmation of these principles by the Saviour of the world; and these, even though they find no sound argument opposed to the truths they hear, are content to sit with passive acquiescence and rely upon the mercy of an incomprehensible God.

These replies tell also the story of people who, after they have joined the Church of Christ, feel that their duty is done, and prepare for undisturbed rest, because they have not kept in mind that nothing more can be derived from a given source than is put into it. Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ demands the direct opposite of apathy. Here also is illustrated the fact that people must be spoken to in language with which they are familiar if interest is to be aroused and understanding enlarged.

The third series of answers strongly impresses the effectiveness of example and forcibly illustrates the truth of the maxim: Actions speak louder than words. These answers show that world conditions have changed; that the foresight of God has provided for all emergencies in the great eternal plan, and that mankind must be made aware of this, and shown wherein the Gospel will better their condition and increase their joy in living. These hint also at the danger of dead branches, of inactive members in any organization; they emphasize the need for supervised recreation and for earnest work and initiative.

Replies to the fourth question show the spirit of testimony, the integrity of young missionaries, the vitality of the Church that can successfully keep more than two thousand volunteer workers constantly in the field—in short, the response that was given to the fourth question shows beyond reason to doubt that within

the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the power of God unto salvation.

The answers of twenty willing servants to four vital questions were given after months of experience in missionary service, and after careful thought. They express and imply living issues that face every inhabitant of the earth. They tell in words the feelings and thoughts of more than six hundred thousand people who have embraced the Gospel of Jesus Christ in this day. They may well be thoughtfully considered.

RICHARD L. EVANS

MAESER CENTENARY

DETAILS of the celebration held at Meissen, Germany, in honour of the one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Dr. Karl G. Maeser have reached our desk. The Conference at Dresden of the German-Austrian Mission, in connection with which the Maeser Centennial Celebration was held, began Saturday, January 14th, and lasted the greater part of the ensuing week.

The celebration at the house at Meissen, in which Dr. Maeser was born, began at three o'clock p.m. on Monday, January 16th, and lasted for one hour. Nearly one thousand people were in attendance; the local police cooperated with Mission authorities, and the general order and interest were pronounced excellent. The principal speakers were President Hyrum W. Valentine of the German-Austrian Mission, President Hugh J. Cannon of the Swiss-German Mission, and Hon. A. T. Haeberle, United States Consul-General at Dresden.

Excerpts from the translated address of Mr. Haeberle follow:

When we think of the great men in our country that learned from him [Dr. Maeser]; when we read the inscription on the tablet that was placed last year in the wall of the house where he was born: "Next to God he loved his fellow-men, and to their betterment devoted his life"; when we recall the love with which his name is mentioned by his followers in many parts of the world; and when, finally, we think of his many followers, scattered throughout the world, who strive to emulate his virtues, we can not but declare that Karl Maeser has also found a deserving place on the roll of American heroes.

Whatever our religious belief may be, no one who is familiar with the history of our country can fail to recognize the splendid results achieved by the Mormons in the colonization of new lands. Only those who are acquainted with the great distances in the United States, and with its pioneer life of the earlier part of the last century, can understand the great hardships connected during that period with the founding of colonies in our country.

. . . .

Our historian Bancroft stated that "there is no parallel in the world's

history in this emigration [of the "Mormon" Pioneers] from Nauvoo, Illinois.

. . . .

It is not surprising that a people capable of such a task should also produce men who are recognized leaders in the various walks of life—statesmen, educators, scientists, agriculturists, artists, and business men; nor is it surprising that the State in which they live should maintain so high a standard of education.

With a difference of only a few years, the birth of Maeser coincides with that of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints of which he was an adherent. He, too, became a leader. He became a leader among leaders in the development of the famous State of Utah.

Three of the large daily papers of Dresden and one of Meissen gave favourable and extended accounts of the proceedings.

In the evening another public meeting was held in one of the best halls of Meissen. This was attended by more than four hundred people. The spirit of testimony prevailed in marked degree, and the reports state that every person who came to that two-hour gathering remained to hear the last word.

A remarkable testimony meeting was also held on the Thursday following. It convened at nine o'clock a.m. and continued until six-thirty in the evening. During that time one hundred and thirty-two people bore testimony, and frequently six arose at once. This is described in reports as a "glorious climax to a most wonderful occasion." The conference was attended by approximately one hundred and fifty missionaries.

THE MISSIONARY CONFERENCE AT SUNDERLAND

THREE impressive and inspiring meetings were held in the Latter-day Saints' Chapel at Sunderland on Friday, January 27th. The occasion was that of a Missionary Conference of the Northern Division of the British Mission, comprising the Newcastle and Scottish Districts.

Those present included Mission President John A. Widtsoe, under whose direction the conference was called and conducted, and Elder Richard L. Evans, Associate Editor of the *Millennial Star*, from Mission headquarters in Liverpool, Presidents Orson H. Berrett and William Cooke of the Newcastle and Scottish Districts, respectively, and the following Traveling Elders: Charles E. Alsop, Amos B. Robinson, Richard L. Bird, Jr., Wayne L. Shaw, Howard A. Stokes, A. Vincen McKay, Eugene R. Budge, Seth T. Shaw, Henry R. Price, Ivan J. Foster, Charles C. Hill, and Charles J. Parkinson of the Newcastle District, and Carl W. Buchanan, George W. Romney, Robert K. Whyte, J. Ross Smith, Louis S. Leatham and Willis E. Bean of the Scottish District. Elder R. LeRoy Blamires was unable to attend because of the distance of his field of labour, Aberdeen.

The conference comprised three sessions and two intermissions; it was called to order at 9:45 a.m. and adjourned at 10:30 p.m. The time was devoted to discussion of vital problems pertaining to missionary work in the British Isles. Each missionary was given frequent opportunity to express his views and to ask questions throughout the meetings. The discussions which there took place were open and frank, and were conducted in the spirit of reverence and devotion and in the interest of the more efficient and effective carrying of the gospel message to all the world.

The following are a few among the many missionary problems and activites that were considered: Purposes and methods of tracting, obtaining and changing lodges, holding street meetings, making personal contacts, following up the inquirer, meeting the men, keeping resident members active, using local talent, providing recreation and diversion, distributing the Book of Mormon, using time to best advantage, meeting the present-day problems of the world, studying and keeping the commandments of the Lord.

Salient thoughts expressed and conclusions reached during the development of these topics were epitomized by the Mission President. A few of these are tersely stated in the following sentences:

We are never so old but that we need to be taught.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ takes a man as he is and lifts him into a higher sphere.

Apply gospel teachings to daily living.

We are living in the last days spoken of in the holy scriptures.

He who waits to be called is a slothful servant.

A man is only half a man if he only does what he is told to do.

Use your initiative!

Let all people hear the Gospel; convert as many as possible.

The best way to keep a person interested is to keep him active.

A man must speak sincerely.

Make use of every personal contact—with shop-keepers, etc.

Tract with deliberation and care regardless of high or low records.

The Book of Mormon is the best missionary literature in the Church—distribute it; put it into libraries.

Gossip is a thing to be shunned by all people at all times.

Use the members; use local talent; provide wholesome amusement and recreation.

Time is a precious gift of God; use it accordingly.

Be gentlemen!

We are engaged in the Lord's work; it will go on to consummation regardless of the acts of men.

Study with care and purpose.

Speak to people in the language they can understand.

Have love in your heart for all men.

Preach the Gospel through recreation—man has a many-sided nature that must be provided for.

Show all people wherein the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the only remedy for the many problems and difficulties that are harassing the world to-day.

Every missionary at the conference reported harmony with his fellow-workers, expressed joy and happiness in performing the labours of his calling, and bore earnest testimony of his personal assurance that this latter-day work restored through the instrumentality of the Prophet Joseph Smith is indeed the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Mutual understanding and zeal for the work, such as can be found only among those who are engaged in the service of the Lord and their fellow-men, were there apparent. Assurance of love, support and good-will, and an appeal for continued diligence, by the Mission President, which left their deep impress upon every hearer, marked the close of the Missionary Conference at Sunderland.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Transfers: The following missionaries have been transferred from and to the Districts specified: Elder Harold W. England, Newcastle to London; Elder Ivan J. Foster, London to Newcastle; Elder Weston W. Taylor, Welsh to the Liverpool Office, on special assignment.

Releases and Departures: Elder N. Glenn Stanford, who has laboured in the Manchester and Ulster Districts, has been honourably released and sailed for his home in America on February 3rd, aboard the *Melita*, from Liverpool. Elder Arnold F. Wright, who has laboured in the London District during his entire mission period, has been honourably released, and sailed for his home in America from Liverpool on February 4th, aboard the *Regina*.

Releases and Appointments: At a meeting of the missionaries in the Newcastle District, held at Sunderland on Saturday, January 28th, the honourable release of District President Orson H. Berrett, and the appointment of Elder Charles E. Alsop, transferred from the Norwich District, as President of the Newcastle District, were announced by President John A. Widtsoe. The departing president received expressions of appreciation for his long and faithful service, and the new president was assured of loyal support by the Traveling Elders.

The honourable release of President Richard D. Hooper of the Hull District and the appointment of Elder Veronus M. Jensen to the office thereby left vacant were announced by President John A. Widtsoe at a meeting of the Hull District missionaries, which

convened in Hull on Sunday, January 29th. Public announcement of the change was made at the evening sacrament meeting of the Hull Branch. Both the incoming and outgoing presidents received many expressions of good-will from members and missionaries.

Doings in the Districts: *Hull*—A report meeting for the Hull District Traveling Elders was held at Hull on Sunday afternoon, January 29th. President John A. Widtsoe conducted the business of the meeting.

Liverpool—A meeting of the Traveling Elders was held at Blackburn on Saturday, January 28th. Elder David M. Kennedy, outgoing president, gave thanks to the missionaries for their support and cooperation and bore fervent testimony to the divinity of the work in which he has been engaged as a missionary for the past two years. Elder L'Etrenne Andelin, the incoming president, and each of the missionaries also bore witness to the actuality of the gospel restoration. A farewell party was given in the evening in honour of President Kennedy. Rooms at the Heaton Street Chambers, Blackburn, were well filled with members and friends who came to wish President Kennedy Godspeed.

London—The missionaries convened in monthly report meeting at London on January 25th. Encouraging reports were given. In the evening a social was held in the Holloway Branch. Many friends and investigators enjoyed the excellent program that was rendered. At the Sunday meeting of the Holloway Branch, January 29th, Elder Arnold F. Wright was released from his duties as Branch President after several months of faithful service in that office; Elder Joseph F. Parrish was called to be his successor.

Newcastle—At a baptismal service held in the Sunderland Chapel on January 25th two persons were baptized by Elders Eugene R. Budge and Charles C. Hill and confirmed by President Orson H. Berrett and Elder Charles E. Alsop. A well-attended social was held in the Sunderland Chapel on Thursday evening, January 26th, in honour of District President Orson H. Berrett, who has been honourably released. Members gathered from many of the Branches of the District to render parts on the program. President Berrett was presented with a token of regard by the missionaries. The monthly report meeting for the missionaries of the Newcastle District was held on Saturday, January 28th, and was attended by the Mission President, who listened to the reports and proffered timely suggestions.

Nottingham—The Latter-day Saint Hall on Mansfield Road, Eastwood, was the scene of a Branch Sunday School social on January 21st. Prizes were given to the younger members having good attendance records for 1927. The event was well attended by both Branch and District patrons.

Sheffield—The Traveling Elders of the Sheffield District convened in monthly missionary meeting at Doncaster on January 20th. The time was spent in formulating plans for future work in accordance with suggestions received from the District Presidents' Conference recently held at Liverpool. On the following evening a District Union meeting was held. Problems were discussed and plans made for the coming weeks.

COMPENSATION

I KNOW as my life grows older
And mine eyes have clearer sight
That under each rank wrong, somewhere,
There lies the root of right;
That each sorrow has its purpose,
By the sorrowing oft unguessed—
But as sure as the sun brings morning,
Whatever is, is best.

I know that each sinful action,
As sure as the night brings shade,
Is somewhere, sometime, punished,
Though the hour be long delayed;
I know that the soul is aided
Sometimes by the heart's unrest,
And to grow means often to suffer—
But whatever is, is best.

I know that there are no errors
In the great Eternal Plan,
And all things work together
For the final good of man;
And I know when my soul speeds onward
In its grand, eternal quest,
I shall say as I look back earthward:
Whatever is, is best.

ANON.

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